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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/782,167

02/19/2004

Tatsuo Yokota

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07/13/2006

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EXAMINER

MAHMOOD, REZWANUL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2164

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/782,167		YOKOTA ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Rezwanul Mahmood		2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

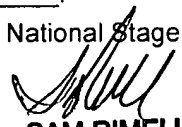
Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/19/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7, and 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brunts (US Patent 5,887,269).

3. With respect to claim 1, Brunts discloses a guest data management method for a navigation system, comprising the following steps of:

creating a guest database which stores at least information on guests and information on destinations associated with the guests (Brunts: Column 3, lines 65-67; Column 4, lines 1-3; Column 7, lines 1-10; Figure 10);

editing the guest database by modifying the information stored in the database or adding new information to the database (Brunts: Column 14, lines 14-25 and lines 52-64); and

retrieving information from the guest database for determining a destination for a travel with one of the guests whose information is stored in the database (Brunts: Column 2, lines 56-59; Column 7, lines 1-10; Figure 8d).

4. With respect to claim 2, Brunts discloses a guest data management method as defined in claim 1, wherein said database includes information as to whether a particular guest is pleased or the guest shows favorable opinion on a particular destination (Bruns: Column 7, lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Figure 10; Here the user can save destination related information, which can include comments about if user or guest was pleased about the destination).

5. With respect to claim 3, Brunts discloses a guest data management method as defined in claim 1, wherein said database includes information on persons involved in a travel to the destination including a user of the navigation system or a driver of a vehicle used for the travel to the destination (Bruns: Column 14, lines 52-64; Figure 10; Here the database containing information has several categories of destination data, which can contain information about persons involved in travel to the destination).

6. With respect to claim 4, Brunts discloses a guest data management method as defined in claim 1, wherein said database includes information created by a user based on personal impression of a particular destination acquired when the user visited the destination or evaluation of the destination by the user (Bruns: Column 7, lines 1-10 and lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Here the information user saves can include information about personal impressions relating to different destinations).

7. With respect to claim 5, Brunts discloses a guest data management method as

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defined in claim 1, wherein said database includes information created by a user based on impression or opinion expressed by a particular guest when the user and the guest visited the destination (Bruns: Column 7, lines 1-10 and lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Here the information user saves can include information about personal or guest impressions relating to different destinations).

8. With respect to claim 6, Bruns discloses a guest data management method as defined in claim 1, wherein said step of creating the guest database includes a step of storing relevant information through a manual input process made by a user (Bruns: Column 7, lines 1-10 and lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Here the user manually enters the information using an input device).

9. With respect to claim 7, Bruns discloses a guest data management method as defined in claim 1, wherein said step of creating the guest database includes a step of automatically storing information available through a normal operation of the navigation system including a name of a destination, address of the destination, and a time and date of visiting the destination (Bruns: Column 15, lines 5-16; Column 16, lines 61-67; Here address, time and date related to the destinations are automatically provided by the navigation system or device).

10. With respect to claim 9, Bruns discloses a guest data management apparatus for a navigation system, comprising:

means for creating a guest database which stores at least information on guests and information on destinations associated with the guests (Bruns: Column 3, lines 65-67; Column 4, lines 1-3; Column 7, lines 1-10; Figure 10);

means for editing the guest database by modifying the information stored in the database or adding new information to the database (Bruns: Column 14, lines 14-25 and lines 52-64); and

means for retrieving information from the guest database for determining a destination for a travel with one of the guests whose information is stored in the database (Bruns: Column 2, lines 56-59; Column 7, lines 1-10; Figure 8d).

11. With respect to claim 10, Bruns discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said database includes information as to whether a particular guest is pleased or the guest shows favorable opinion on a particular destination (Bruns: Column 7, lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Figure 10; Here the user can save destination related information, which can include comments about if user or guest was pleased about the destination).

12. With respect to claim 11, Bruns discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said database includes information on persons involved in a travel to the destination including a user of the navigation system or a driver of a vehicle used for the travel to the destination (Bruns: Column 14, lines 52-64; Figure 10; Here the database containing information has several categories of destination data,

which can contain information about persons involved in travel to the destination).

13. With respect to claim 12, Brunts discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said database includes information created by a user based on personal impression of a particular destination acquired when the user visited the destination or evaluation of the destination by the user (Bruns: Column 7, lines 1-10 and lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Here the information user saves can include information about personal impressions relating to different destinations).

14. With respect to claim 13, Brunts discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said database includes information created by a user based on impression or opinion expressed by a particular guest when the user and the guest visited the destination (Bruns: Column 7, lines 1-10 and lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Here the information user saves can include information about personal or guest impressions relating to different destinations).

15. With respect to claim 14, Brunts discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein means for creating the guest database includes means for storing relevant information through a manual input process made by a user (Bruns: Column 7, lines 1-10 and lines 39-45; Column 14, lines 52-64; Here the user manually enters the information using an input device).

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16. With respect to claim 15, Brunts discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said means for creating the guest database includes means for automatically storing information available through a normal operation of the navigation system including a name of a destination, address of the destination, and a time and date of visiting the destination (Bruns: Column 15, lines 5-16; Column 16, lines 61-67; Here address, time and date related to the destinations are automatically provided by the navigation system or device).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

17. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

18. Claims 8, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brunts (US Patent 5,887,269) in view of Isaac (US Publication 2005/0159889).

19. With respect to claim 8, Brunts discloses a guest data management method as defined in claim 1, however, does not disclose expressly wherein said step of creating the guest database includes a step of storing information available through an extended function of the navigation system including road condition, traffic condition, or weather condition during a travel to a destination when the navigation system includes appropriate sensors or a wireless communication means to acquire information on such

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conditions.

The Isaac reference, however, discloses providing road conditions, traffic condition, or weather condition through an extended function of the navigational system and the navigational system including appropriate sensors or a wireless communication means to acquire information on such conditions (Isaac: paragraph 15, lines 5-13; Figure 2; Paragraph 20, lines 1-13; Paragraph 21, lines 1-16).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to have included storing information about road condition, traffic condition, or weather condition during travel to a destination in a navigation system using appropriate means.

The suggestion or motivation of doing so would be for an improved approach for incorporating an individual's knowledge when determining an optimal route via an electronic navigation system (Isaac: Paragraph 14, lines 1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to have combined Brunts and Isaac for the benefit of an improved navigation system.

20. With respect to claim 16, Brunts in view of Isaac discloses a guest data management apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said means for creating the guest database includes means for storing information available through an extended function of the navigation system including road condition, traffic condition, or weather condition during a travel to a destination when the navigation system includes appropriate sensors or a wireless communication means to acquire information on such

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conditions (Isaac: paragraph 15, lines 5-13; Figure 2; Paragraph 20, lines 1-13; Paragraph 21, lines 1-16).

Conclusion

21. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Ohno reference (US Patent 7,043,358) teaches about a updatable navigation system. The Stankoulov reference (US Patent 7,043,357) teaches about extensible navigation systems. The Ohishi reference (US Patent 6,385,535) teaches about a navigation system. The Endo reference (US Publication 2005/0125234) teaches about flagged locations. The Kynast reference (US Publication 2005/0234617) teaches about a driver support system. The Cotter reference (US Publication 2006/0053090) teaches about personalizing user content.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rezwanul Mahmood whose telephone number is (571)272-5625. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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